



KENNEBEC JOURNAL.

MAINE'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER
AUGUSTA, MAINE

NEWS SPORTS OBITUARIES VIEWPOINTS WHAT'S HAPPENING CLASSIFIEDS

HOME

MAINEJOBS

HOMES

WHEELS

MARKETPLACE

NEWS

Local and State
Midday/4PM Reports
AP Wire
Elections 2004
InDepth
Week in Photos

WEATHER

5-day Forecast
On the Ocean

SPORTS

High Schools
Pirates
Running

BUSINESS

News
Doghouse Kitchen
Resources
Maine News Direct
Classifieds

ENTERTAINMENT

Calendar
Movies
Dining
Music
Theater
Art

TRAVEL

Visiting Maine
From Away
Vacation Rentals
Lodging Guide

OUTDOORS

Hunting
Downhill Skiing
X-C Skiing
With Children
Campground Guide

BLOGS

Food for Thought
Doghouse Kitchen
Trail Head
More blogs

20 BELOW

Teen Blogs
This Just In
Bulletin Board

MAINEJOBS

Search Jobs
Post a Job
News and Resources
Employer Profiles

HOMES

Classifieds
Advice and Info
Featured Agents

Saturday, March 26, 2005

[E-mail this story to a friend](#)

Allen: I'll fight to save facilities

By ELBERT AULL
Staff Writer

[Copyright](#) © 2005 Blethen Maine Newspapers Inc.

By ELBERT AULL

Staff Writer

A Kennebec Journal headline Friday had Rep. Tom Allen, D-1st District, fielding questions from angry constituents who were led to believe the congressman had predicted that Bath Iron Works and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard would close in the next few years.

The headline made Allen's Friday even more interesting because the congressman spent the morning at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Allen met with the newspaper's editors Thursday. He expressed his concern about the future of the state's shipbuilding industry.

Although Allen said two of Maine's three key military and shipbuilding installations face a serious threat of being closed -- and all three locations are at "substantial

ADVERTISEMENT

Announcing the biggest change at Weight Watchers in years.

Weight Watchers[®]
of MAINE



Daniel A. So
A cardiologist electrophysic appointed to Medical Cent
[read more >>](#)

Buddy to Bu
Central Main WCSH-TV's present the E Spring Celeb on April 3.
[read more >>](#)

Wellness Va
The CMHVI provides car assessments Supercenters
[read more >>](#)



Today's Top Headlines from the Kennebec Journal

- [Sap's running: fires are stoked](#)
- [Correction: Hunnewell term](#)

Moving to Maine
Retiring in Maine

WHEELS

Classifieds
Resources and Info
Featured Dealers

MILESTONES

Celebrations
Obituaries

MARKETPLACE

Classifieds
Special Sections

ADVERTISING

5 Reasons
Advertising Products

HELP CENTER

Press Herald
Sunday Telegram
Kennebec Journal
Morning Sentinel
MaineToday.com



risk" of being shuttered -- he did not make any predictions, as was suggested.

David B. Offer, executive editor of the Kennebec Journal and Morning Sentinel, acknowledged Friday the headline was incorrect.

"We regret that the headline on our story may have led readers to believe that Congressman Allen was predicting that the bases would close when, in fact, he said there was a danger that could happen and he would work hard to prevent it," said Offer, who attended Thursday's editorial board meeting.

Allen took the time Friday to clarify his position on the fate of three military installations that employ more than 16,000 workers in Maine and southeastern New Hampshire.

"When I said all three facilities are at substantial risk, that was not a prediction of outcomes," he said. "I don't make predictions of outcomes, because I can't."

Maine's congressional delegation was put on the defensive two weeks ago, when President Bush named his nominees for a nine-member commission charged with recommending military base closures by May. None of the nominees were from New England.

Even before the commission news, delegates were meeting with high-ranking military officials to pitch their case for Brunswick and Portsmouth.

Allen said a lot of his uncertainty about the future of the Brunswick and Portsmouth installations -- Bath Iron Works faces a different threat from a Navy proposal to build DD(X) destroyers in one shipyard instead of two -- comes from a lack of insight into how federal officials are leaning, where base closures are concerned.

Maine's congressional delegates have met with high-ranking Pentagon and Department of Defense officials in the past few weeks, but those officials are prohibited by law from letting the delegation know whether their meetings are having an impact,

- [Pittston rabies clinic set](#)
- [Vassalboro board to convene early](#)
- [Mount Vernon panel to discuss budget](#)
- [Police](#)
- [Girls swimmer of the year: Sara Knight](#)
- [Boys swimmer of the year: Micah Juarez](#)

All of today's: [News](#) | [Sports](#)

from the Kennebec Journal

Today's Top Headlines from the Morning Sentinel

- [Health coalition serves community from humble space](#)
- [Bottling plant boost predicted in Kingfield](#)
- [Maine Maple Sunday](#)
- [Laughing with legislators, weighing women's roles](#)
- [Nearest thing to Mars](#)
- [Chamber chooses Boucher for service award](#)
- ['Juiced' sensational, dangerous](#)
- [Girls swimmer of the year: Mattie Fowler](#)

All of today's: [News](#) | [Sports](#)

from the Morning Sentinel

Allen said.

"The wise course for us is to assume we are at substantial risk and to do everything we can to make sure that anyone from the Pentagon hears what we have to say," he said.

Elbert Aull -- 623-3811, Ext. 433

eaull@centralmaine.com

Home Delivery

Subscribe to the Kennebec Journal
or Morning Sentinel for just \$2.49
a week for 12 weeks



Copyright © Blethen Maine Newspapers Inc.